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EX-MUTANTS TM
#5
ENTER: THE NEW HUMANS!

Scanner Notes

Ex-Mutants #5
"Enter -- The New Humans"

WARNING!!! - WARNING!!! - WARNING!!!

This issue takes place after New Humans #1
and before New Humans #2.

SHATTERED EARTH CONTINUITY

In this section I will attempt to peice together a working continuity list. I will try to update it as I scan and read each issue. What follows is what I know so far.

Solo Ex-Mutants 4
Ex-Mutants V1 1-4
New Humans 1
Ex-Mutants V1 5-6

I hope you enjoy this book as much as I have!

KING SPYDER

DECEMBER 13TH, 2008

VERSION 1

Simply Amazing™

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN DAVE LAWRENCE IS SICK AND THE TEXT PAGE HAS TO BE WRITTEN TONIGHT?
or
WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO TALK ABOUT IN JANUARY, ANYWAY?

Yep, Dave is in bed right now trying not to cough up either of his lungs, so it fell to me to write this text. Me, the *Art Director.* Everybody knows artists can't write. If we could write, we wouldn't need to draw, eh?

It merely falls to me to get this out of the way before 9:00 tomorrow morning, so I'll try to sound as much like Dave Lawrence as possible:

It's that particular time of year, boys and girls (and those of you who still aren't sure). January. Christmas is over, the tree is out back rotting in the alley waiting for the garbagemen, the wrappings are stowed away in the closet and the gifts are burning merrily in the fireplace.

I hate January. T. S. Eliot said "April is the cruelest month," but he was obviously out of sync.

So what do I talk to you all about? Lawrence's present (I am tempted to write "ever present") cold that has him flat on his back a good eighteen hours out of the day?

Nahh, you don't care about his suffering.

You probably don't even care about the fact that his car was stolen yesterday, obviously by someone just chock full of the X-mas spirit.

How about his wretched love life?

Obviously not.

O.K. You leave me no alternative. Wake the kids and call the neighbors. It's hype time.

Actually, even though I'm employed here and paid to think this way, I find some of new titles coming out this month pretty interesting (Can I have my check now, Mr. Campiti?).

Here's what's upcoming in the next four or five weeks:

Really! First, there's the premiere of the regular **BEAST WARRIORS OF SHAOLIN™** series. If you haven't already checked out the superb graphic novel from Pied Piper Press, shame, shame, shame!

Peter Quinones and Glen Johnson have crafted a skillful melange of myth, magic, and martial arts mayhem sure to delight seekers of graphic enthrallment.

Next on the solicitation sitting here on my desk, I see we have the premiere issue of three titles that prove the world is not so serious as Frank Miller would like to make you think. **THE GADGIT GANG™** is best described as "Our Gang meets James Bond." These kids might just save the world, if they don't get grounded. Check this one out to see the kind of fun comics used to be about. It come to us courtesy of writer Michael Anthony Carroll and artist Marcus Rollie.

This month features the release of **AMAZING COMICS PREMIERES™ #3**, featuring not one, but one plus one (that's two for those of you who didn't go to college), feature stories.

Shadowalker™ has art by Kevin (*Ninja, Reign of the Dragonlord*) Farrell, and The Ghostchasers™ is from David Gomien and Charles Walker.

And of course, **EX-MUTANTS™ #6**, featuring the return of Ron Lim. Every Tuesday around the office is "Ron Day." That's when Ron's regular weekly package arrives, bearing at least seven to ten new pages of art. It actually makes it worth getting out of bed every Tuesday morning.

EX-MUTANTS™ #6 also features a sneak peek at a bizarre new series Mr. Lawrence and I are writing for *Wonder Color Comics. THE LUNATIC FRINGE™* can best be described as... indescribable. Sometimes I wonder what it's about, and I co-wrote the thing! Art is by John Statema and Roy Richardson, featuring zip-a-tone by yours truly.

Next month, one hopes, Lawrence will be well enough to write this stuff again and I can go back to filling in the edges of covers that artists turned in with the wrong proportions.

I hate February, too.

—Scott Rockwell,
Confused as ever

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EX-MUTANTS™
SIGH! EVER SINCE DOC TOOK OVER, IT'S JUST WORK, WORK, WORK!
YOU KNOW, DOUG, I'M REALLY STARTING TO MISS THE GOOD OLD DAYS. USED TO BE ALL WE DID WAS DIG HOLES ALL DAY LONG!
SCOTT-- YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T TALK LIKE THAT--
ENTER-: THE NEW HUMANS™
Chapter One
DAVID LAWRENCE WORDS
RON LIM & TIM DZON PICTURES
BOB PINAHA LETTERS
DAVID CAMPITI WORRIES

"--IS JUST LIVING IN THE PAST!!"

NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I SEE THIS, I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT! ROGER--I WAS HERE JUST DAYS AGO...

UH-UH. DAYS FOR US, KELLY. FOR THE WORLD--

--MORE LIKE THIRTY YEARS. I WONDER WHAT WE'LL FIND HERE.

AH... I'LL TELL YA WHAT YER GONNA FIND, BRUNNER. THE SAME THING WE'VE FOUND UP THE WHOLE DAMN EAST COAST--

--NOTHIN'! NOTHIN' AT ALL!

YOU KNOW, DUKE--

--I WAS WONDERING WHAT WE'D FIND HERE IN NEW YORK CITY, NOT WHAT WOULD TURN UP ON GUIDED TOUR BETWEEN YOUR EARS!
COME ON, ROGER--

--EASE UP ON THE COLONEL. THIS HAS BEEN HARD ON HIM.
HARD ON HIM?!?

CALVIN, THIS REALLY HASN'T BEEN A PARTY FOR ANY OF US! GOD KNOWS THIS ISN'T WHAT I BARGAINED FOR!
TRUE ENOUGH. BUT YOU'RE A BACHELOR--

--DUKE HAD A WIFE AND THREE KIDS.
STOP MAKING EXCUSES FOR YOUR HERO, CAL. WE'RE ALL HURTING. KELLY HAD A FAMILY, TOO. AND YOU DON'T SEE HER--
ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO!

THAT'S ENOUGH. IN CASE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN, WE DO HAVE WORK TO DO!

YES'M. BUT DON'T BEAT ME, MASSAH! DON'T BEAT THESE PO' OLD BONES!

WHAT'S THIS I HERE ABOUT YOU WHIPPING YOUR SLAVES, MADAM?
SEE, BRUNNER? JUST LIKE I TOLD YA. ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY--

--NOTH--OOOOOFFF!!!
WHAP

STRONG
UH...HI. I'M DOUGLAS. WHO ARE YOU?
WHO AM I?!?
ALBATROSS

WHY, I'M COL. JOHN WAYNE GOLDBERG, YA BIG DUMB GALOOT! AND IF YA DON'T LEARN TA WATCH WHERE I'M GOIN', I'M GONNA--

UH, DUKE-- I THINK I'D BETTER HANDLE THIS.

HELLO. WE'RE...UH... TRAVELER'S FROM FAR AWAY. WE'VE COME HERE TO FIND--
FIND? YOU WANT TO FIND SOMETHING...
STRONG
OH, THEN YOU WANT TO SEE DOC!

DOC KNOWS EVERYTHING!
DOES NOT. I HAPPEN TO KNOW FOR A FACT HE'S NEVER EVEN HEARD OF THE COUNCIL OF TRENT!

YES, DOUGLAS. WE'D LIKE TO MEET DOC. WE'D LIKE THAT VERY MUCH.

WELL, FOLLOW ME THEN.
OH, ONE MORE THING--
SPLING

YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP TALKING REAL SLOW LIKE THAT. I'M NOT STUPID OR ANYTHING.
KELLY--DO YOU REALLY THINK THIS IS A GOOD IDEA?

WELL, ROGER--WHAT THE HELL HAVE WE GOT TO LOSE?
WELL, THERE'S SOME-THIN' I WANT TO KNOW BEFORE I GO ONE STEP FARTHER--

WHAT THE HELL IS THE COUNCIL OF TRENT?

"NOTHIN'"--HUH, DUKE? "NOTHIN' AT ALL?"
AH, BIG DEAL. JUST A COUPLE OF SCRAGGLY MUTANTS. SAME AS WE'VE SEEN EVERY PLACE SINCE HOUSTON.
THEY'RE NOTHIN' SPECIAL--

AT ALL...
AH...I WOULDN'T SAY THAT...!

I'M LEAVING. I HATE CROWDS!
ALBATROSS

CHAPTER TWO:
Introducing SHAWN ATKINSON, PENCILLER!
HEY, DOUGLAS! WHATCHA GOT THERE? FOOD?
DON'T BE STUPID! TAKE A LOOK AT THEM--
THEY'RE HUMAN!
YES. I THINK THEY ARE!
HEY, EVERYBODY! LOOK OVER HERE!
DOUGLAS FOUND NEW HUMANS!!
UH-OH!
YOU KNOW, DUKE, I HATE TO SAY THIS--
--BUT FOR ONCE, I THINK I AGREE WITH YOU!

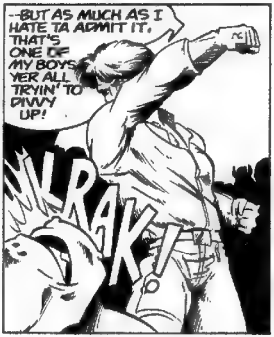
SAVE ME!! PLEASE SAVE ME!!
MAKE ME HUMAN!
NO! ME FIRST! ME FIRST!
CHOOSE ME! CHOOSE ME!!
ME FIRST!! PLEASE!!
OH PLEASE!! PLEASE MAKE ME HUMAN!!
GODS!! I TELL YOU, THEY'RE GODS!!
RABBIT SEASON!
DUCK SEASON!
MY BABY! CURE MY BABY!
THE GIRL! GET THE GIRL!
NOT THE SINNERS! I AM A RIGHTEOUS MAN!!
DAMN! I SHOULD'VE BROUGHT A WEAPON! THESE CRAZY BASTARDS ARE GONNA TEAR US APART WITHOUT EVEN MEANIN' TA!
YIKES!!
DAMN!

DAMN!
DAMN!
DAMN!
DAMN!
DAMN!

PUT ME DOWN!
PUT ME DOWN!
I'M WARNIN' YOU. IF YOU DON'T LET ME GO--WHY, I'LL--I'LL--
--I'LL HOLD MY BREATH TILL MY FACE TURN'S BLUE. I'LL

YEEOOOWWWCH!!!

EXCUSE ME, MISTER--


--BUT AS MUCH AS I HATE TA ADMIT IT, THAT'S ONE OF MY BOYS YER ALL TRYIN' TO DIVVY UP!
KRAK!

POW!

DUKE--I...
AH, FERGIT IT, BRUNNER--

--BAD ENOUGH I HAD TA RESCUE YA.
DON'T GO AN' MAKE IT WORSE BY TRYIN' TA THANK ME!

LOOK AT THE BRIGHT SIDE, CALVIN. WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY'D DO IF THEY DIDN'T LIKE US?
KELLY, I CAN HARDLY IMAGINE.

BUT TO TELL THE TRUTH, I THINK WE'D PROBABLY BE SAFER!
WINK!

AW... COME ON, GUYS!
STOP IT! YOU'RE GONNA HURT SOMEBODY!
PROBABLY ME, FOR ONE!
WHAT WOULD DOC SAY?
ALL RIGHT!! THAT'S ENOUGH!!

YUP. PROBABLY SOMETHING LIKE...

...THAT.
OOOPS.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON, HERE--

--BUT IT'S OVER, RIGHT NOW! AND FURTHERMORE...

DOUGLAS...?
DOUGLAS--

--WHAT ON EARTH HAVE YOU GOT THERE?
I FOUND THEM IN THE CITY. I GUESS THEY CAUSED ALL THE EXCITEMENT.

THEY'RE THE NEW HUMANS!!

YES, I CAN SEE THAT, BUT...

OH, NEVER MIND. JUST BRING THEM INSIDE!

WAS THAT--
STACEY LOVE
HMMM...
YEP. THAT'S DOC.
MMMM

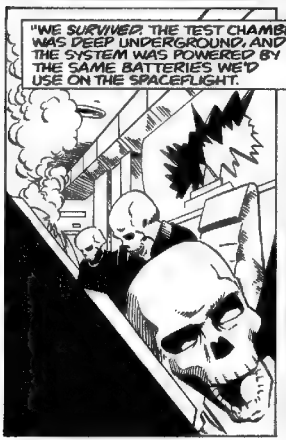
COLONEL JOHN WAYNE GOLDBERG, UNITED STATES AIRFORCE. YOU CAN CALL ME DUKE. IN FACT--
--YOU'D BETTER.
YOU HAVE TO EXCUSE DUKE. HE WAS THE VICTIM OF AN UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT AT BIRTH, WHEN HIS FATHER NAMED HIM AFTER HIS FAVORITE MOVIE STAR.
WHICH I GUESS ALSO CLUES YOU IN ON THE UNFORTUNATE ENVIRONMENT HE MUST HAVE GROWN UP IN.
I'M ROGER BRUNNER, BUT YOU CAN CALL ME ROGER.
DON'T PAY ANY ATTENTION TO ROGER. LORD KNOWS WE DON'T.
I'M DR. KELLY BROCK.
AND I'M CAPT. CALVIN GORDON.
AMAZING! BUT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND--
DON'T FEEL BAD, DOC. NEITHER DO WE.

YEAH. IMAGINE HOW WE FEEL. YOU'VE ONLY GOT TO FIGURE OUT THE FOUR OF US--
--WE'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT THIS WHOLE WORLD!
PURRRRRRRR

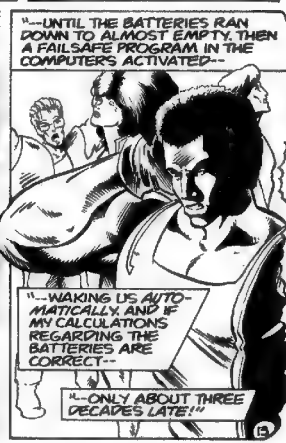
YOU'RE NOT FROM-- THIS WORLD, THEN?
"--JUST NOT THIS TIME. IT STARTED, NEAR AS WE CAN FIGURE, ABOUT THIRTY YEARS AGO.
"THE FOUR OF US WERE TESTING A HIBERNATION SYSTEM TO BE USED ON A FLIGHT TO JUPITER. DUKE AND CAL WERE ASTRONAUTS, ROGER AND I DESIGNED THE SYSTEM.
THIS WORLD, DOCTOR--

"THIS WAS THE FINAL TEST. SIX MONTHS IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION, THEN THEY'D REVIVE US.
"BUT THEN--

"--WELL THEN, SOMETHING HAPPENED. AND THOUGH I'M SURE WE'LL NEVER KNOW ALL THE DETAILS--
SPARK GEN
"--IT DOESN'T TAKE ANY KIND OF A GENIUS TO FIGURE OUT WHAT WENT WRONG!


"WE SURVIVED. THE TEST CHAMBER WAS DEEP UNDERGROUND, AND THE SYSTEM WAS POWERED BY THE SAME BATTERIES WE'D USE ON THE SPACEFLIGHT.

"BUT WHEN THE SIX MONTHS ENDED, THERE WAS NO ONE THERE TO WAKE US. WE JUST CONTINUED SLEEPING--


"--UNTIL THE BATTERIES RAN DOWN TO ALMOST EMPTY. THEN A FAILSAFE PROGRAM IN THE COMPUTER'S ACTIVATED--
"--WAKING US AUTOMATICALLY. AND IF MY CALCULATIONS REGARDING THE BATTERIES ARE CORRECT--
"--ONLY ABOUT THREE DECADES LATE!"

YES, THIRTY YEARS WOULD BE ABOUT RIGHT.
SO WHEN WE WOKE UP, WE DISCOVERED THE RUINS, AND WE FLEW OFF TO EXPLORE.
THIS PICTURE...
3N 9) CC5

FLEW?!? LIKE IN AN AIRPLANE?!?
IT WAS THAT OR FLAP OUR ARMS.
AND THIS LAB...

GOOD LORD!!!
IT'S JUST I HAVEN'T SEEN AN AIRPLANE SINCE BEFORE THE WAR. I WAS BARELY TEN YEARS OLD--

CRASH!!

KELLY!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
WHAT A KLUTZ.
TH-THAT PICTURE...

IT WAS A PICTURE OF MY FATHER.
DR. ALEXANDER CUGAT?
YES-- BUT HOW DO YOU--
EMMANUEL?
YES-- BUT--
OH GOD, EMMANUEL--

--YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BELIEVE THIS--
-- BUT I'M YOUR MOTHER!

UH...WE'RE GOING TO LOOK AROUND. WE'LL SHOW YOU THAT AIRPLANE LATER, DOC, IF YOU WANT TO SEE IT.

ROGER-- YOU TALK TOO MUCH.
EASE UP, DUKE. HE'S KELLY'S SON, FER CHRISSAKES.
MAYBE--

--MAYBE NOT. BUT HE HASN'T SEEN HER IN THIRTY YEARS. HOW DO YOU KNOW WE CAN TRUST HIM?

DUKE, YOU WOULDN'T TRUST YOUR OWN MOTHER UNLESS SHE HAD THREE FORMS OF I.D.
SO TELL ME, DOUGLAS--

--IN THIS TOWN, WHERE DO WE GO TO PARTY?

--AND YOUR FATHER?
HE LIVED THROUGH THE WAR--PERHAPS UNFORTUNATELY.

HE WAS BURNED BADLY--BUT SOMEHOW MANAGED TO HANG ON FOR ALMOST TEN YEARS--
--BEFORE THE CANCER CLAIMED HIM.

BUT IT WAS LONG ENOUGH FOR HIM TO TEACH ME MOST OF WHAT HE KNEW ABOUT GENETIC ENGINEERING--
--AND WITH THE HELP OF THE EQUIPMENT HE LEFT ME--

--I'VE NOT ONLY BEEN ABLE TO BEGIN REBUILDING THE WORLD, BUT PERHAPS HUMANITY, AS WELL!
THAT'S ERIN, BELUSHI, VIKKI, ANGELA, AND LORELEI. THEY'VE BEEN LIKE MY FAMILY--

--BUT I'VE COME TO THINK OF THEM AS A SORT OF MEMORIAL TO DAD, AS WELL.

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR BROTHER, ANYWAY?
OH, SCOTT MUST HAVE GONE HOME WHEN THE TROUBLE STARTED. HE HATES CROWDS, AND GETS HEADACHES.
WE ♡ BOOGIE
THE CURE - web
WE'D BETTER GET MOVIN' SOON. I THINK IT'S GETTING CLOSE TO SUNSET--

--AND WE'VE NO IDEA WHAT HAPPENS AT NIGHT 'ROUND HERE!
DUKE--I REALLY THINK YOU'RE GETTING PARANOID. THERE'S NO REASON WE CAN'T SPEND THE NIGHT HERE.

HI, KELLY! WHAT'S UP?
IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH THE REST OF YOU, EMMANUEL'S INVITED US TO SPEND THE NIGHT.
ZIP!
I DON'T KNOW--THERE'S SOME EQUIPMENT I NEED ON THE PLANE. I THINK WE SHOULD GET BACK.

DUKE--THERE'S NOTHING YOU--
WELL, WHY DON'T WE GO PICK UP WHATEVER COL. GOLDBERG NEEDS--

--AFTER ALL, I'D REALLY LIKE TO SEE THIS AIRPLANE.

THAT'S JUST WHAT'S GOT ME WORRIED.

I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT! THIS REALLY FLIES?
LIKE A BIRD, DOC. UH--YOU DO STILL HAVE BIRDS, DON'T YOU?

FAR TOO FEW, UNFORTUNATELY. WHAT ABOUT FUEL? DON'T YOU HAVE PROBLEMS WITH--
NOT AT ALL, DOC. COME WITH ME AND I'LL SHOW YOU!

AH HELL--BRUNNER, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?
FUNNY, DUKE--I WAS ABOUT TO ASK YOU THE SAME THING.
AND WHAT THE HELL DO YOU NEED SO BADLY, ANYWAY?

FOLLOW ME AND I'LL SHOW YA.
CAL--YOU STAY WITH DOUGLAS.

NOW WHAT DO I DO WITH YOU?
I KNOW!! I KNOW!!

WHERE DO YOU KEEP THE FOOD?!!?

THIS IS IT, DOC. THE GUTS OF THE PLANE. IT'S ALL MADE POSSIBLE BY A LIGHTWEIGHT METAL DEVELOPED BY THE SPACE PROGRAM.
STRONGER THAN STEEL, BUT LIGHTER THAN ALUMINUM. BY USING IT FOR THE REACTOR CASING, WE'RE ABLE TO RUN THIS PLANE WITH ATOMIC POWER!
ATOMIC?!!?
AFTER WHAT'S BEEN DONE TO OUR WORLD-- YOU'D USE ATOMIC POWER?!?
TAKE IT EASY, DOC!!
NO WAY THAT WRENCH IS GOING TO DO IT, BUT IF YOU COULD DAMAGE THE REACTOR--
--YOU'D KILL US ALL!!
CLANK
WHEW!! THAT'S BETTER! JUST RELAX!
I'M SORRY. IT'S JUST--
HEY, LOOK, DOC--
--I'M MADE OF ATOMS. YOU'RE MADE OF ATOMS--
--THIS PLANE'S MADE OF ATOMS. THE WAY I SEE IT, IT'S NOT ATOMS THAT WERE THE PROBLEM HERE--
--IT'S WHAT PEOPLE DID WITH THEM.
BESIDES, CONSIDER HOW MUCH POWER WE'VE GOT HERE. POWER ENOUGH TO... OH--RUN A WHOLE CITY, IF WE HAD TO!
A CITY?! REALLY? FOR HOW LONG?
OH, FOR ABOUT THE REST OF OUR LIVES--
--AND A COUPLE OF HUNDRED YEARS THEREAFTER!

NOW WHERE THE HELL DID I PUT THAT...?
AHA!

THERE WE GO!
DUKE--WHAT IN THE WORLD DO YOU WANT THAT THING FOR?!

PROTECTION.
PROTECTION?! FROM WHAT? DAMMIT, DUKE--

--THAT'S MY SON OUT THERE!!
SORRY, KELLY. THAT DOESN'T IMPRESS ME ONE BIT. YOU AIN'T SEEN 'IM IN THIRTY YEARS--
--I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE ALL THAT IMPORTANT TO HIM! HE'S GONNA DO WHAT'S BEST FOR HIS PEOPLE!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT IS--BUT IF IT AIN'T WHAT'S BEST FOR US--
--WELL, DAMMIT, KELLY! YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO WHICH SIDE HE'D TAKE!

KELLY, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I REALLY HOPE WE DON'T NEED 'EM--

--BUT I THINK YA'D BETTER TAKE THIS. JUST IN CASE?

DAMN YOU, DUKE GOLDBERG--

--DAMN YOU, YOU WIN!!
NOT BAD, FOR A BROAD.

UH... DUKE, REMEMBER ALL THOSE SUPPLIES WE USED TO HAVE...?
BURP!
AMAZING! ROGER TELLS ME YOUR ENGINES CAN POWER AN ENTIRE CITY!

I SUPPOSE YA TOLD HIM WHERE THE KEYS ARE, TOO?
WHEN WILL YOU LIGHTEN UP?
WHEN WILL YOU WISE UP?

YOU REALLY SHOULD STAY HERE. WHY, WITH THE POWER FROM YOUR ENGINES--WHY, WE COULD MAKE THIS CITY A PARADISE.
AND MY WORK--
UH... SON--

--MAYBE SOME DAY, BUT THAT ISN'T JUST MY PLANE, YOU KNOW.
AND THE OTHERS REALLY WANT TO EXPLORE FOR A WHILE BEFORE WE SETTLE ANYWHERE.

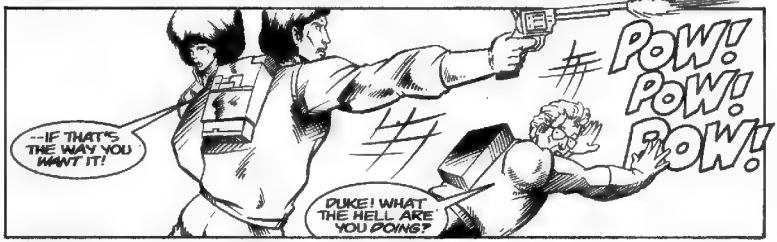
I WAS AFRAID YOU'D SAY THAT. OH WELL--

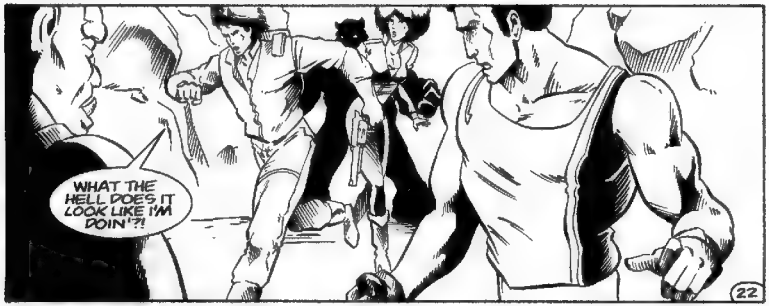
--I WAS REALLY HOPING WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO DO THIS!!

I'M SORRY, BUT EVEN THE AIRPLANE WOULD HAVE BEEN TOO VALUABLE TO LOSE, AND THAT REACTOR--
--THERE'S NO WAY NOW I CAN ALLOW YOU TO TAKE IT!
I KNEW IT! I JUST KNEW IT!
SON, YOU CAN'T--

AFTER THIRTY YEARS--
--DON'T YOU THINK IT'S JUST A LITTLE LATE TO START PLAYING MOTHER?
BESIDES, THAT REACTOR COULD MEAN A BETTER LIFE FOR THOUSANDS. YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO KEEP IT!

AND YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO TAKE IT!
I KNEW IT! AND A GODDAMN COMMUNIST AT THAT! OH WELL--


POW! POW! POW!
--IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT IT!
DUKE! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?


WHAT THE HELL DOES IT LOOK LIKE I'M DOIN'?!

I'M GETTIN' US OUTTA-- OOOOFF!!

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MANY OF US YOU KILL. OUR WORK IS WHAT'S IMPORTANT!
MAYBE--

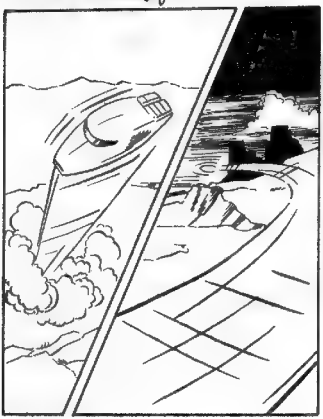
--BUT WHAT IF I KILL YOU? YOU'RE THE IRREPLACEABLE ONE, AREN'T YOU SON?
PERHAPS--

--BUT I DON'T BELIEVE FOR ONE MINUTE YOU COULD DO IT--
--MOTHER.

I'VE GOT TO. I'VE--
MAYBE NOT--

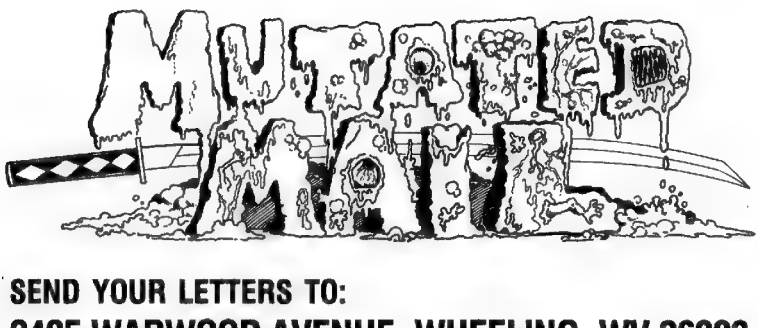
--BUT SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO! THIS IS WRONG, DOC! THIS ISN'T WHAT YOU TAUGHT ME!
BUT DOUGLAS-- WE NEED... AAKKK!!

LET THEM GO OR I'LL BREAK DOC'S NECK!



NEXT: WATCH FOR THE NEW HUMANS, THEIR OWN BOOK, PREMIERING THIS MONTH--AT BETTER COMIC SHOPS EVERYWHERE. AND JOIN US BACK HERE IN THIRTY DAYS FOR:

GODS AND MEN!



SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:
2405 WARWOOD AVENUE, WHEELING, WV 26003

Good evening, and welcome to **EX-MUTANTS #5.** *Our subject for this month's MUTATED MAIL is "How to fill a two-page letter column with hardly any letters at all." But I'll get to that in a minute.*

First, I have some thank yous to pass around. This month's issue of **EX-MUTANTS,** *and* **NEW HUMANS #1,** *were both in big trouble and running extremely late when the penciller (who shall remain nameless) first turned in his pages late, and then sort of fell off the face of the earth when they were returned to him for some corrections.*

Then came two gentlemen to the rescue. First, my thanks to **Shawn Atkinson,** *who pencilled 19 pages of this issue in about two weeks' time, and made them look good besides. Also, I want to thank* **Gary Washington** *for performing a similar save for* **NEW HUMANS #1.**

Next month my life will be simpler, because Ron Lim will be rejoining me in these pages.

And now for the letters pages. Well, some explanations are in order. In the back of **EX-MUTANTS #2,** *I wrote a text page about, basically, my unwillingness to blanderize and sanitize my writing to suit the unthinking of all ages. As far as I'm concerned, we're all grown-ups here, whether we happen to be 9 or 90, and that's who I'm going to write for.*

Nice little piece, my friends all told me. You'll probably get lots of mail. Maybe we would have. Except for one thing.

We forgot to print our address on the letters page, although it did appear in the indicia.

As a result, we have almost no mail.

Oh well, I'll just run what little I've got. Then, if worst comes to worst, maybe I'll just make up some letters.

Or, in the words of Mark Evanier, "What is mulching?"

David,

I agree wholeheartedly with you and your views about **EX-MUTANTS.** Most readers in my area range from late adolescence to their mid-thirties. The general manager of my local comic shop likes **EX-MUTANTS** because it goes against the standard treatment of things. I feel it's time somebody saw there's a market for comics that are a cut above those intended for pre-teens, and suitable for anyone with a fair intellect.

In fact, that's why I bought **EX-MUTANTS #2.**

A world without objectionable things isn't real. As you said, the Ex-Mutants grew up in a world without most of this society's rules and standards. This is a double-edged sword. On the one hand, they are more free and are not pressured to conform and have a structured life. On the other hand, they have no idea about drugs alcohol, responsibility, and other things that we learn as we go through life.

It has been my experience that the mature people find the mature comics. So go on ahead, treat us all like mature, intelligent folk. We deserve credit for our intelligence.

About the comic itself: I enjoyed **EX-MUTANTS #1 & #2.** I can safely say this will be one of the best new titles of 1986.

The only thing I didn't like was Vikki's vanity. "I broke a nail!" Come on — what did she say when she looked like last week's leftover, "I broke a fang?"

Are these guys going to do a post-nuke tour of the U.S.? One would assume that, if people in Pennsylvania were nearly normal, the further out from the cities you went the more normal life would become. I also noticed there are no animals. Were they totally detroyed, or just waiting to pop up in a future issue?

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
Noel Tominack
149 E. Jenkins Lane
Indian Head MD 20640

*"I broke a nail." *Sigh* One bad joke is going to haunt me for the rest of my life.*

Thanks for the letter, Noel, especially since it filled up about half my letter column. I'm glad to know that someone out there agrees with me.

I've never really thought of comics as being kiddie stuff. Maybe because I've never thought of myself as a kiddie. They're a story-telling form, no better or worse inherently than any other.

And they don't have to be

childish, either. Will Eisner, Frank Miller, Alan Moore, and Howard Chaykin have proven that, to name a few.

Now, if only a few more of us in this business would learn that.

As for your questions, I kind of figure that some places were exposed to more radiation than others. Rural areas, away from industrial and military sites, would probably suffer the least. But nowhere is life going to be very normal.

And as you found out last issue, there's at least one cat around.

Dear Ex-Mutant Guys.

Wow! What a great story! What a great comic!

Let me tell you, **EX-MUTANTS** is the first thing I read when it arrives — and since I manage a comic store I read a lot!

The characters are believable, and I like Erin a lot. She has to be one of the sexiest female characters around!

You guys pat yourselves on the back. You deserve it!

EX-MUTANTS forever!

Sincerely,
Greg Polling
3121 W. Greenway
Phoenix AZ 85023

We're blushing, again.

Everyone around the office agrees with you about Erin, too. Scott Rockwell keeps asking Ron for a nude pin-up of her.

So far, Ron's refused, but Scott figures sooner or later he'll find Ron's weakness. Every man has a price.

But actually, what's really pleased me is not that the women are sexy — which they definitely are — but that we've been able to make them all strong, independent characters. With individual personalities, as well.

And personalitities have been hard to come by for women in comics. Ask Diana Prince and Sue Richards what they've gone through.

And next up on American Top 40, our long distance dedication for this week, a letter that made it all the way from Singapore ...

Dear Publisher,

I have read **EX-MUTANTS** and find it a very good comic. Please send me information on any of your comics, including subscription rates, current releases, etc.

If possible, send me your latest catalogue, or information on how I can buy your comics. Please tell me how my comics will arrive if I subscribe to you and whether I can use Visa to subscribe instead of check or money order.

Please send me an order form, if possible.

Yours sincerely,
Win Yen
53 Jalan Sampurna
Singapore 1026

Singapore, for crying out loud! Does this mean I'm internationally famous?

Unfortunately, we don't offer any subscriptions at this time. But as soon as Scott Rockwell gets around to telling me how to send overseas mail, we'll send you some flyers and such.

Seems like the least we can do.

And as for the rest of you campers, well, if Win Yen can send mail all the way from Singapore, you don't have and excuse. Send letters. Please. Lots of them.

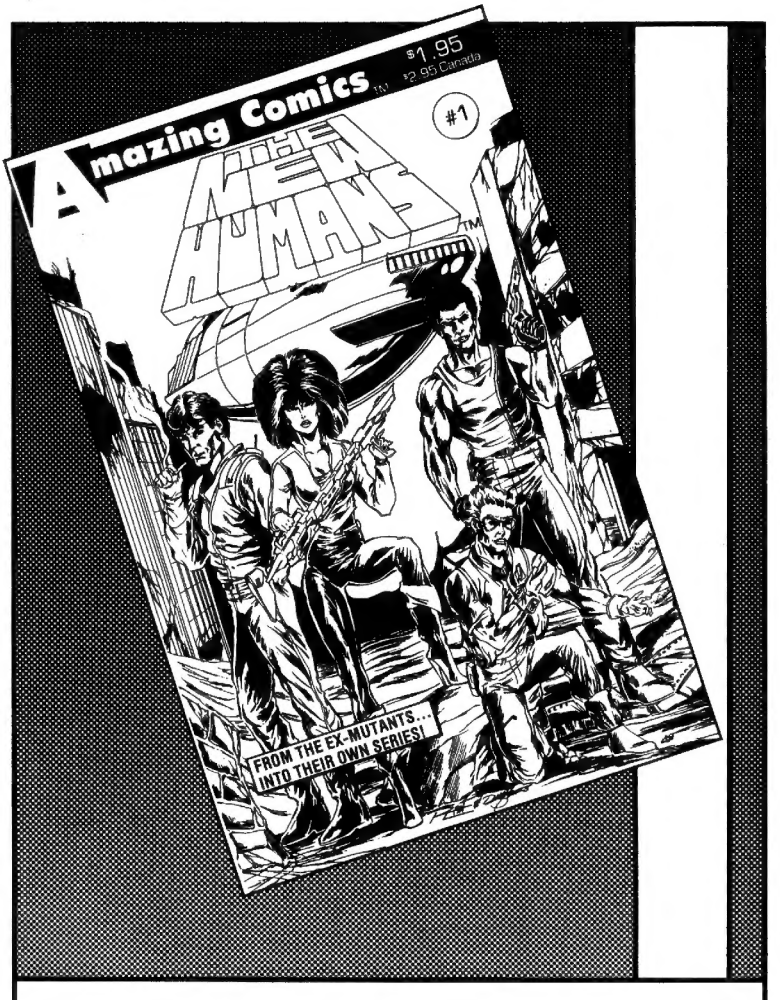
And be sure to join us again next month, when the **EX-MUTANTS** *awaken to a strange new world, where they've gone from hated outcasts to being worshipped as gods! "Gods you Men" is, as usual, brought to you by me, Ron Lim, and Tim Dzon.*

And just for the hell of it, we've got a special back up feature, too. A preview of a new, full-color super-team series I'm co-writing at Wonder Color Comics. **The Lunatic Fringe** *is written by Scott Rockwell and myself, with art by John R. Statema, and I guarantee it's like nothing you've ever seen before.*

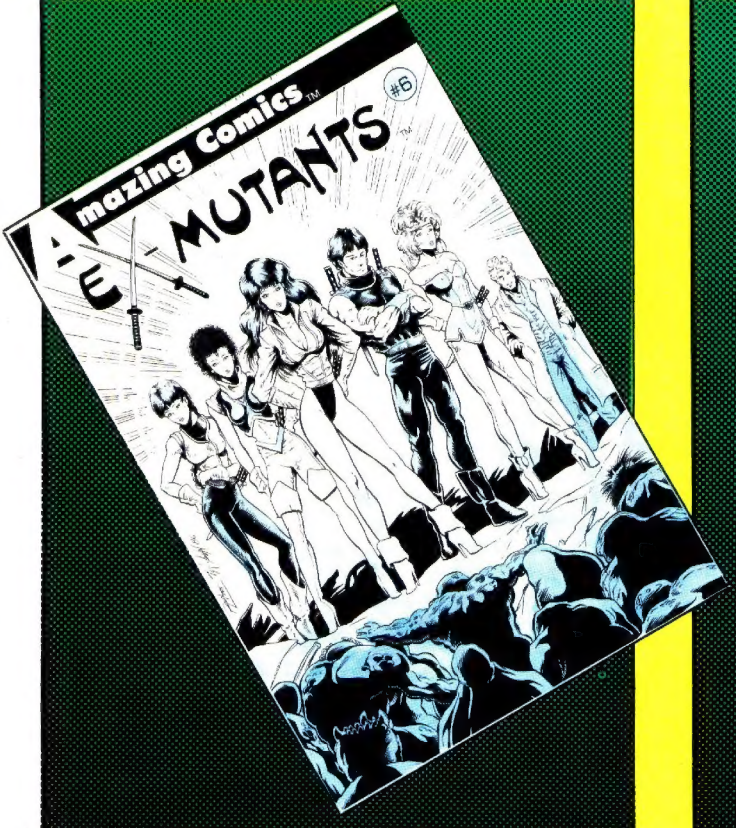
I mean, it's like nothing **I've** *ever seen before, and believe me, I've been around.*

That's all for now. Take care, and I'll see you next month.

— David Lawrence
East of Eden
December 3, 1986



COMING IN JANUARY!



COMING SOON!

KING SPYDER